

What is claimed is:-

1. Ball detection apparatus for detecting when a golf ball is hit off a golf tee of an automatic golf ball teeing machine, comprising a radar device for producing a first signal in response to detecting movement of a golf club towards the tee, a directional microphone for producing a second signal in response to detecting the sound of a golf club striking a golf ball and monitoring means for detecting a coincidence between the first and second signals.
2. Ball detection apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the microphone is responsive to sound within a frequency range of 2 to 5 KHz.
3. Ball detection apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the monitoring means is arranged to produce an output signal only if it detects a second signal while the first signal is at or close to its peak level.
4. Ball detection apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the monitoring means is arranged to produce an output signal only if it detects a coincidence between the first and second signals and the second signal is above a predetermined level.
5. Ball detection apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the monitoring varies said predetermined level in accordance with the amplitude of the first signal.

6. An automatic golf ball teeing machine comprising ball detection apparatus for detecting when a golf ball is hit off a golf tee of an automatic golf ball teeing machine, comprising a radar device for producing a first signal in response to detecting movement of a golf club towards the tee, a directional microphone for  
5 producing a second signal in response to detecting the sound of a golf club striking a golf ball and monitoring means for detecting a coincidence between the first and second signals and a ball feeder for feeding balls one at a time to a golf tee, the ball feeder being operable in response to the monitoring means of the detection apparatus detecting a coincidence between the first and second signals.

10

7. An automatic teeing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein the radar device is supported by the ball feeder.

8. An automatic teeing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein the microphone  
15 is supported by a control panel housing processing circuitry of the monitoring means.

9. An automatic teeing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the control panel has a display for displaying the maximum speed of the golf club.